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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 11 JUNE 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED RESPECTIVELY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that the Azerbaijani Government sets high store by the efforts of the Security Council and the Secretary-General personally to settle the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, as reflected in the sending of a United Nations fact-finding mission to the region.

The sending of the United Nations mission was necessitated by the absence of factual information on the essence of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict, which is now in its fifth year. Throughout this period, however, members of the United Nations have, as a result of a number of historical and political circumstances, been deprived of officially documented information compiled under the auspices of the Security Council and the Secretary-General.

In the course of the United Nations mission's work in the region, the Azerbaijani side provided it with information on the illegal actions of the Republic of Armenia towards the Azerbaijani Republic, namely: aggression, occupation, annexation, mass killing of the peaceful population, expulsion of the civilian population from territories occupied by means of armed force, the hard fate of the refugees, and the damage and destruction of residential homes, industrial facilities and places of worship. In all, 36 documents were handed over, a list of which is attached.

The Azerbaijani Republic has always advocated openness of information, since it considers that there are no issues which my Republic wishes to conceal from the world community.

All of this gives members of the Security Council the opportunity to acquaint themselves in detail with the problem on the basis of information from an independent source, and to arrive at a just decision.

The leadership and population of the Republic attach great importance to the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of peace and international security.

Just recently released from a totalitarian regime and having restored its independence, the Azerbaijani Republic has chosen as its course the creation of a secular democratic State and has for the first time in its history successfully conducted presidential elections on a multi-party basis. In this connection it must be noted that the aggression by the Armenian Republic, which is a consequence of the predatory annexationist policy of its leadership, is aimed at undermining the foundations of democracy in Azerbaijan and depriving that Republic of the opportunity to achieve political stability, thus creating an extremely complex situation.

Moreover, the valuable multilateral efforts of the international community aimed at resolving the conflict are invariably nullified as a result of the destructive position of the Republic of Armenia. This is confirmed first and foremost by the position Armenia has taken in the talks on the settlement of this problem within the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, reflected in the blocking of the constructive decisions proposed by the United States delegation.

Furthermore, on 7 June 1992 the Republic of Armenia began to expand the scale of its aggression, attacking the northwestern regions of Azerbaijan located 250 miles from the Nagorny Karabakh region.

We believe that the United Nations, as one of the most authoritative and influential international organizations, which has established a documentary record of the current state of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict, will clearly define and determine the starting-point from which the constructive movement towards a peaceful settlement of this problem must begin.

On the basis of the foregoing, we have the honour to request:

- That the report of the United Nations fact-finding mission on the results of its visit to the region of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict should be distributed as a Security Council document. This will facilitate the reduction of tension in the region and increase the confidence of all parties involved in the conflict in the effectiveness of the United Nations mechanisms called upon to facilitate the solution of international conflicts;

- That, in view of our desire to emphasize our intentions and to cooperate constructively in future in solving this complex problem, the Permanent Representative of the Azerbaijani Republic to the United Nations should, as the initiator of the sending of the United Nations mission to the region, be afforded in accordance with Article 32 of the Charter of the United Nations the opportunity of participating in and addressing the Security Council meeting to discuss the report on the results of the visit by the United Nations mission to the region of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict;

- That the present letter should be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Azerbaijan to the United Nations

ANNEX

List of documents submitted to the United Nations mission

1. Map of the Azerbaijani Democratic Republic, 1918-1920.

2. Map showing inhabitated locations in the Azerbaijani Republic captured, destroyed and bombed by Armenian armed forces.

3. List of Azerbaijanis massacred in Armenia.

4. Up-to-date information concerning criminal acts of Armenian bandit groups.

5. List of inhabited locations captured by Armenian armed groups in the territory of Azerbaijan.

6. Reports on events in the conflict zone (Ministry of National Security of the Azerbaijani Republic).

7. Reports on events in the conflict zone (Ministry of Defence of the Azerbaijani Republic).

8. Intercepted radio conversations demonstrating Armenia's participation in the organization and execution of operations by bandit groups in the mountainous part of Karabakh and adjacent regions.

9. Notes and statements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic.

10. Lists of wounded soldiers.

11. Articles concerning the participation of troops of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in the capture of Khojaly (Publication of the CIS Gyandzha Commando Division entitled Sovetsky voin).

12. List of soldiers killed.

13. Information about Armenia's preparations for the annexation of the mountainous part of Karabakh by force of arms (Ministry of National Security of the Azerbaijani Republic).

14. Information about the development of the situation in the Republic after the Zheleznovodsk communiqué.

15. Results of the analysis of tests for use of chemical weapons (Ministry of Health of the Azerbaijani Republic).

16. Excerpts from the testimony of witnesses concerning the participation of soldiers of the 366th Regiment in the capture of Khojaly.

17. Involvement of the armed forces of the CIS and Armenia in the escalation of tension in the mountainous part of Karabakh.

18. Activities of Armenian international terrorism, including in the territory of Azerbaijan.

19. Investigation material concerning the MTV Mi-8 helicopter disaster of 20 November 1991.

20. Investigation material concerning the capture of Khojaly.

21. Material confirming the participation of CIS forces in joint military actions with Armenian bandit groups during the capture of Khojaly.

22. Summary analysis of bodily injuries of persons killed by Armenian bandits at Khojaly during the night of 25/26 February 1992.

23. Information from the Procurator of the Azerbaijani Republic on crimes committed by Armenian bandit groups during the capture of Khojaly.

24. Information from the Procurator of the Azerbaijani Republic on crimes committed by Armenian bandit groups during the capture of Malybeyli.

25. Conclusion of the forensic examination of the corpse of an unknown child from Khojaly.

26. Conclusion of the forensic examination of the corpse of N. G. Bagirov from Khojaly.

27. Copy of an article from the newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya of 14 March 1992 concerning crimes committed by Armenian bandits during the capture of Khojaly.

28. Criminal case concerning the murder of the journalist Salatyn Askerov and of two soldiers.

29. Information concerning the nature of the crimes committed by nationals of Armenia in the territory of Azerbaijan since the beginning of the territorial claims of the neighbouring Republic to the Azerbaijani Republic.

30. Blowing up of the Megri railway in Armenia.

31. Air disaster involving the AN-2 aircraft.

32. Material concerning the closing of the Azerbaijani railway in the Megri area of Armenia.

33. Material showing the attempts of the law enforcement agencies of Nagorny Karabakh to absolve criminals from responsibility.

34. Brochure on Armenian terrorism; its author was killed as a result of Armenians' sabotage in Karabakh.

35. Brochure entitled "The undeclared war".

36. Videocassette containing material concerning Armenia's aggression against Azerbaijan and the crimes of the Armenian bandits in Khojaly.